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Our Case No. 9281-3982
Client Reference No. FC US00011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Hideki Masudaya)
)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
)
Filing Date: Herewith)
)
For: Input Device Having Plurality of)
Function Switches)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please rewrite the paragraph on page 1, lines 4-9 as follows:

(Amended) The present invention relates to an input device having a plurality of function switches, and more particularly to an input device for use in a vehicle to operate electronic devices on board by only one input device to reduce operation errors by overriding functions assigned to switches.

Please rewrite the paragraph on page 1, lines 11-19 as follows:

(Amended) Automobiles have recently been equipped with an increasing number of electronic devices, including CD player, MD player, radio, air conditioner, TV receiver, and telephone. These devices are each mounted at a different place, and when a driver wants to control one of these devices the driver's attention ahead will be distracted, thereby reducing driving safety. An input device or control center

mounted on the instrument panel to control the on-board devices therefrom has been devised as a solution.

In the Claims

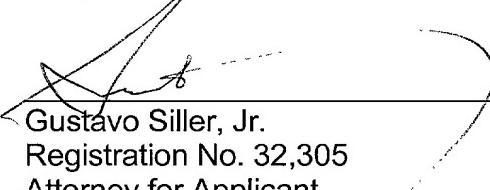
Please rewrite Claim 12 as follows:

12. (Amended) An input device according to Claim 11, further comprising:
a second warning unit for generating notification signals for informing the operator of the reassignment done; wherein
the controller unit instructs the second warning unit to generate the notification signals when the device reassignment has been performed.

REMARKS

Applicant has rewritten portions of the specification and Claim 12. The changes from the previous version to the rewritten version are shown in attached Appendix A, with strikethrough for deleted matter and underlines for added matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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